VISIT US THROUGH GOOGLE EARTH
42 27' 15.64" N 123 26'34.60" W

K7ZV
GRANTS PASS, OREGON, U.S.A.

What would life be without my XYL Barbara (a.k.a. "Wild-One" as she was named for her adventurous activities) to accompany me on all the adventures that ham radio has offered me. After my very first DXpedition to Myanmar as part of the XZ1N team without her, I vowed that she would be a part of any other. We have traveled to many faraway interesting places each with its own adventures and mishaps. Having her with me has enhanced the experience for both of us.

One of Oregon's most spectacular sights is Crater Lake in Crater Lake National Park. With its deep blue color and water clarity, it is a must to see when you visit Oregon. It is 1,943 feet (592m) deep making it the deepest lake in the United States. The lake's water commonly has a striking blue hue, and the lake is refilled entirely from direct precipitation in the form of snow and rain. Thanks to my friend Peter, W6OOL for the use of this picture he took on a recent visit.

THE CALL OF THE LOW BANDS

80-meter DXing has always been of special interest to me. I tried different antennas on my small city lot in San Jose, CA, from inverted vee's to a 2-element linear-loaded beam. Each step was an improvement but I was never competitive with stations using directional arrays.

My friend David, W6ANR's antenna design knowledge helped me upgrade my 2-element beam and at last I had a competitive station for 80 meters. David's electrical design required high-Q loading coils. My machining background and knowledge of UV-resistant plastics and the requirement for solid and durable RF connections led to the mechanical design. Coil forms using ABS plastic and machined aluminum blocks welded to the element tubing were the keys that made our approach a resounding success. My present 3-element beam is a thorough redesign of the M2 80M3A and can be switched to CW by the flip of a switch.

But 80 meters is more than just a technical challenge and good QSO's - assisting and building carbon copies of my beam at W6RJ and OH2BH has enriched my life in many ways. It is always a special treat for me to hear them making QSO's with the same antenna design that made me competitive on the band that led to special friendships with each of them. This is the 80-meter band at its best!

N9BCA

Date	UTC	Band	RST	2X
14-Aug-2016	01 49	6m	-19	FT8

Tnx QSL 73 de K7ZV

Verified and printed by DX4WIN

Richard Chatelain, K7ZV

Also: WN6LQA, WB6JPY, AB6ZV, XZ1N, XZ0A, XZ1ZV, 8Q7AA, OH0ZV, ZA1A, OE6/K7ZV

QTH: 888 STEWART ROAD
GRANTS PASS, OR 97526-9658, U.S.A.

Equipment: Icom-7800, Yaesu FT-1000D, Elecraft K3, Alpha 87A

Antennas:

- **3 element 80M, 3 element 30M and 3 element 40M beams using Hi-Q coils**
- **Bencher Skyhawk 10/15/20M and Skylark 12/17M beams**